

Ecological Site Description ID:		R231XY134AK	
Ecological Dynamics of the Site:			
<p>This alpine ecological site was observed on the summit, shoulders, and backslopes of mountains. In this ecological site, cryoturbation resulted in patterned ground features known as circles and stripes. Circles were observed in areas with < 5% slopes, while stripes were observed in areas with slopes > 5% slopes. Vegetative communities and soils associated with circles and stripes were similar. For community phase 1.1m, soils were classified as haploglepts and were composed of thin organic matter over gravelly cryoturbate. Disturbance resulting in other community phases was not observed.</p>			
State and Transition Diagram:			
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div>1. Reference State</div> <div>Alpine dwarf scrub-lichen mosaic gravelly circles</div> <div>R231XY134AK</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 1.1 (HCPC) Lichen herbaceous community mosaic </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 1.1 m (HCPCM) Mixed dwarf scrub-lichen dwarf scrubland mosaic wet </div> </div> </div>			
State ID Number:	1	State Name:	Reference
State Narrative:	<p>A mosaic of vegetative communities was observed in this ecological site. For the climax phases, dominant vegetation on rock piles were lichen and dominant vegetation on moist interspaces was dwarf shrubs.</p> <p>Dwarf shrubs are defined to grow less than 8 inches in height.</p>		

Photo 1.1



Community Phase
Number:

1.1

Community
Phase Name:

Lichen herbaceous community mosaic

Community Phase Narrative:

This community consisted primarily of crustose and foliose lichens that grew directly on exposed rock or within rock crevices. Commonly observed species included *Brodoa sp.*, *Rhizocarpon sp.*, and *Bryoria sp.* Shrubs, graminoids, forbs, and mosses were all minor vegetative components of this phase but were observed growing within rock crevices.

Community Pathways

Pathway Number

Pathway Name & Description

1.1A

No pathways observed.

Photo 1.1 m	See above.		
Community Phase Number:	1.1m	Community Phase Name:	Mixed dwarf scrub-lichen dwarf scrubland mosaic wet
Community Phase Narrative:			
<p>Dwarf shrub cover generally exceeded 40% of plots and diversity was high (i.e. 13 observed species). Commonly observed dwarf shrubs included <i>Dryas octopetala</i>, <i>Cassiope tetragona</i>, <i>Salix sp.</i>, and <i>Loiseleuria procumbens</i>. Low and medium shrubs, such as <i>Betula glandulosa</i>, were present at times but not a dominant component within this ecological site. While high in diversity, both graminoids and forbs were a minor vegetative component of this phase. A frequently observed graminoid was <i>Carex bigelowii</i>. Lichen diversity and cover was high (i.e. >20 species; >30% ground cover) but all species had limited individual cover. Commonly observed species include <i>Flavocetraria cucullata</i> and <i>Cladina sp.</i></p>			
Community Pathways			
Pathway Number	Pathway Name & Description		
1.1A	No pathways observed.		